CASE NUMBER:	IV 2317829
SUBJECT:	Christopher Carpenter, Deputy,
STATION/UNIT/BUREAU:	Operation Safe Streets Bureau, Region II
DATE/TIME/DAY:	August 5, 2012, 0107 Hours, Sunday
LOCATION:	Dike Road, Mohave Valley, AZ Beach #11
Synopsis:	
of Arizona by the Fort Mohave Tri Weapon. While intoxicated, Carp beach in the vicinity of several ad July 19, 2013, Carpenter pled gui	topher Carpenter, was arrested in the state libal Police Department for Disorderly Conduct with a senter recklessly shot a firearm on a tribal owned ults and children who were camping on the beach. On the liberty Conduct with a Weapon (ARS 13-as ordered to pay a fine of \$350.00 (Superior Court of A.
Summary:	
were camping along the river sep owned and is popular with the loc that totaled a minimum of fifty per	arating Arizona and California. The area is tribal all residents. There were several families and groups sons camping along the river. At approximately 12:30 the to get a bottle of Tylenol for his wife.
vehicle. He heard a male ask "Is a headlamp that illuminated his fritoward them. The headlamps of trecognize his friends. We will be a subject Carpenter, recognized had been employed by the same he had met him on two occasions	spotlight affixed to his head as he approached his that with a head lamp?" was wearing iends who were standing by the SUV as he walked the SUV were on which also helped alked toward the voice and recognized and and because they company. He recognized Subject Carpenter because in the previous month. During those two meetings he about their daughters and sports at length.

who were standing on the driver's side of the SUV. Subject Carpenter was standing next to the open right front passenger door. Carpenter began shooting his rifle toward the water where children and campers were playing. The camp was thirty feet from where the shots were hitting the water.
Witness asked Subject Carpenter if he could stop shooting close to the river because his kids were down by the beach. Carpenter became upset and asked if he was going to cry about him shooting. Carpenter, while holding the rifle, told "You're really going to tell me what to do?" as he shot again.
Subject Carpenter said "You're going to tell me not to do that?" as he shot several more rounds toward the beach. The four males entered the SUV. Witness, hid behind his vehicle and saw the SUV drive south away from the beach. Several seconds passed when heard approximately 15 rounds being fired from a large caliber rifle. The shots came from the area where the SUV had driven. was in fear for his life and that of his children because he did not know in what direction the second volley of shots had been fired.
Witness After hearing the second volley of shots, Witness called the police via 911 and told them what had happened. At 1:07 a.m. the Fort Mojave Police Department received a 911 call describing the incident (Exhibit B). In the call, named the four males in the SUV and gave possible destinations of a house on Border Lane and Quail Run. Carpenter's lives on Border Lane while lives on Quail Run.
At 1:23 a.m. Officer for the Tribal Police Department conducted a traffic stop of the SUV described by Witness on Green Valley and King Street. The SUV was travelling south alongside Dike Road at a high rate of speed prior to being stopped.
Tribal Police Officer identified identified as the driver, Subject Carpenter was seated in the right front passenger seat, the right rear passenger seat, and was seated directly behind the driver.

Inside the SUV, officers recovered a fully loaded semi-automatic, black, 40 caliber, handgun between the right front passenger seat and the passenger door. There was an additional full magazine found on top of the handgun. An AK-47 with a folding stock, Mossberg 12 gauge shotgun, and Mossberg .22 caliber long rifle were recovered from the rear of the SUV. The AK-47 had a black banana magazine with 8 live rounds.

Two live rounds were stuck inside the AK-47 and were recovered. Several expended rounds from the shotgun were recovered from inside the SUV. In addition, officers recovered a spent 7.62 caliber casing, a spent .22 caliber casing, and an empty .22 caliber magazine from the rear of the SUV. See Police Report and supplemental reports (Exhibit C).

As Officer was searching the vehicle he noticed the vehicle smelled of burnt gunpowder. He also noticed that Subject Carpenter appeared intoxicated, smelled of alcohol, had slurred speech, and bloodshot eyes. The males were subsequently arrested and transported to the Tribal Police Station to be booked. Carpenter was cooperative with officers until he was told he was being arrested. While in the patrol vehicle he began yelling that the arrest was bullshit and that he did not know anything about guns. He repeated this several times during the transport. When they arrived at the station, Carpenter began to mimic the officers as he was being booked. The witnesses corroborated Witness account of the incident and told police they had heard several shots being fired toward their campsite which was thirty to fifty yards from the SUV and an additional volley of gunshots being fired from the SUV as it drove south away from the campsite. Subject Carpenter and Lease were bailed out of the Tribal Police Station by their the following morning. Subject Carpenter returned home to California and called Witness on August 6, 2012. Carpenter told he was sorry for shooting toward the beach and that he had not meant to harm anyone on the beach. He shot as a prank and told to please forget what had happened because it could cost him his life. Carpenter told "Don't mention this, because it could ruin everything", and "The fact that we had several conversations could incriminate him, destroy everything, and ruin his life." believed Carpenter wanted him to drop the charges. During the detention Subject Carpenter, , and denied being involved in the incident to police officers. Subject

arrested.

Carpenter went on to tell officers he had been picked up by his brother prior to being

IAB Note: The distance from Beach #11 on Dike Road to King Street is approximately three miles. The distance from Border Lane to King Street is also approximately three miles.

Subject Carpenter trailed his court date several times and was ordered to be in court on July 19, 2013. He appeared in court on that date and pled guilty to a misdemeanor count of Disorderly Conduct with a Weapon(ARS 13-2904(A) (6), Misdemeanor). He was ordered to pay a fine of \$350 and released (Superior Court of Arizona No. CR-2013-00545,) Exhibit A.

Sergeant Velasquez using department resources attempted to contact Subject Carpenter for questioning regarding his guilty plea on July 19, 2013. The attempts were negative.

#### SUBJECT STATEMENT

**Subject Christopher Carpenter** was interviewed on August 20, 2012 by Internal Affairs Bureau Sergeants Hector Velasquez and Richard Martinez. Subject Carpenter was represented by his attorney Elizabeth Gibbons. The interview was conducted at the Internal Affairs Bureau office in the City of Commerce. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.

Subject Carpenter was in Mojave Valley, Arizona on August 4, 2012 to celebrate his 64 <sup>th</sup> birthday. He arrived early evening. While relaxing at his formal house,
Carpenter's and arrived with friends.
friends left the location en-route to the marina.
Subject Carpenter and his drove to the marina. The sun was still out when they arrived at the marina. At the marina, Carpenter saw his friends on the beach. Carpenter said hello and returned to his house. The trip took approximately ten minutes.
Later that evening, Carpenter to come with him and his two friends to hang out at house. Carpenter was unsure of the time, but said it was several hours after returning from the marina. Carpenter left his thouse with the group in a blue Chevy Trail Blazer. drove, Subject Carpenter sat in the right front passenger seat, while the said it was several hours after the said it was several hou

Carpenter said he did not drink an alcoholic beverage that day and was unsure if the other passengers had consumed alcohol. His was not intoxicated when he stopped by to pick him up and he did not see any alcoholic beverages in the vehicle.
They drove away from his house and turned onto King Street. They were immediately stopped by police and arrested. The officers told Subject Carpenter they were dispatched to the area because someone matching his description had been observed firing a gun while at the beach. Carpenter told the officer he did not know anything about weapons being fired at the beach.
Subject Carpenter was removed from the SUV and placed on the hood of the blue Trai Blazer. As Carpenter was being walked to the patrol vehicle he was asked about weapons in the vehicle. Carpenter said he did not know anything about weapons and had not touched one that day. He told the officer he was a deputy sheriff, but was currently
Subject Carpenter said while outside of the patrol vehicle he was courteous and complied with the officer's orders. He was subsequently placed in the back seat of the patrol car and driven to the station.
While at the station Subject Carpenter did not want to complain, act unruly, or cause problems so he placed his head down on the table and closed his eyes. He described his behavior as "exceptional" during the booking process.
After being booked, Subject Carpenter was approached by a Tribal Police Sergeant. The Sergeant handcuffed him and took him outside. The sergeant told Carpenter he was a former Los Angeles County Sheriff from Class The sergeant asked Carpenter where he worked. Carpenter said he did not want to cause problems and told him where he worked.
IAB Note: Subject Carpenter was contacted by Correction Supervisor Officer at 6:00 a.m. Officer walked outside of the booking area with Carpenter and asked him if he was a Deputy Sheriff. Officer told Carpenter he graduated from class and had left the department. The contact was cordial and Carpenter was transported to the custody facility of the compound.

Subject Carpenter has worked as a for the Sheriff's Department and is very familiar with firearms. On the evening he was arrested he did not smell anything in the vehicle that would indicate a weapon had recently been fired. He did not notice any firearms in the vehicle. Subject Carpenter was released from custody on Sunday, August 5, 2012 and drove because he no longer wanted to be in Mojave Valley. Carpenter called his on Monday August 6, 2012 and asked what charges were being filed. Sergeant Velasquez and Sergeant Martinez asked Subject Carpenter a series of questions regarding his activities on August 5, 2012. Carpenter denied being on Dike Road, in a beach area known as Beach #11, in a blue SUV accompanied by his and two friends named He denied shooting a weapon on Beach #11 or near a blue SUV. Subject Carpenter remembered being picked up at his house by his . He did not remember anyone firing a weapon while at his house. Subject Carpenter denied firing a weapon into the river from a place known as Beach#11 and was not aware of anyone shooting a weapon into the river on that night. Subject Carpenter used his cell phone when he called his Monday, August 6, 2012. He told his he is held to a higher standard and if his and friends did something they had to "fess up." His held to Carpenter they had not been to the beach. His told him about his friend Witness told Carpenter it may have been who called police because he had allegedly been down on the beach the night of the shooting. Carpenter directed his to contact to find out what was going on. He told him not to get involved but to find out because that was his friend. On Monday or Tuesday, Witness Land Called Subject Carpenter. Carpenter told he did not know what was going on, but that he was not involved and was not in that area. Carpenter told he would never fire a gun where people were camping. IAB Note: Subject Carpenter advised that during the phone call had alleged that Carpenter had fired a gun at the beach

where his kids had been playing.

Subject Carpenter told Witness if he was naming him in something he had nothing to do with, it was not right. He said he never threatened during the phone call. The conversation may have lasted ten minutes. He told if he thought Carpenter would do anything like that he was wrong. It told him his kids were at the marina when the shots were fired. They also talked about their kids and why Carpenter would never do something like that. After that stayed quiet.
Subject Carpenter talked to Witness a second time (possibly Saturday) to see how things were going and how he was doing. They never talked about the case or guns. Carpenter said he did not recall calling more than two times.
WITNESS STATEMENTS
Witness was at the Beach #11 campsite with his family and friends, which consisted of
Witness along with numerous others had spent the afternoon playing in the river water. In the evening they built a campfire and were in the process of going to sleep. Said he walked to his car to get a bottle of Tylenol when his name was called out. A group of four males were standing outside of a Chevy Trailblazer. Illuminated the area with a head lamp affixed to his head. The SUV he was approaching also had the headlamps on which helped see who he was approaching. He walked over to the group and immediately recognized them as his friends. He had worked with and had met Subject Carpenter on previous occasions.
It appeared to Witness that that and Subject Carpenter were intoxicated because of their demeanor. Standing by the driver's side door while was standing to the rear of the SUV, near the license plate. Witness was standing near the rear quarter panel on the driver side of the SUV while Subject Carpenter was standing on the opposite side by the open right front passenger door.

Witness heard four shots from what he recognized to be a small caliber rifle. The shots were coming from the area where Subject Carpenter was standing. Due to the late hour and the lack of lighting, could not see the weapon in Carpenter's hands, however, he could clearly see Carpenter. could see that were not holding a firearm in their hands.
Two shots were fired and Witness yelled "Hey tell him to stop shooting that, please stop shooting that, my family is down there." was positive it was Subject Carpenter shooting because he replied "Why, what is it, you're going to cry if I keep shooting?" Carpenter's tone of voice appeared angry and sarcastic as he addressed He heard another two to three rounds being fired from the area where Subject Carpenter was standing. There's family down there." The four males laughed, entered the SUV, and started to drive away.
Witness said as the SUV was driving away, his friend, Witness walked toward him. He told to get down behind the vehicle because he was afraid more shots were going to be fired. Said and walked until the SUV drove away and walked back to the beach area to make sure everyone was okay.
Sergeant Velasquez asked Witness to review the report written by Officer for accuracy. The officer wrote "Christopher told to asked, as he was holding the rifle, "You're really going to tell me what to do?" and then shot a round off, and then said, "You're going to tell me to not do that?" said he did not recall telling the officer that statement. also said he did not say shots were fired from the top of the dike as stated in the report.
On August 6, 2012, Witness received a call from that his brother wanted to discuss the incident and requested permission to give him his phone number. On August 6, 2012, at approximately 5:00 p.m., Subject Carpenter told he was sorry for the harm that he had put family through. He did not realize that family was on the beach.
Carpenter said he was down there with friends and thought it would be funny to shoot a couple rounds off and to try and get to join them. During the phone call Carpenter repeated himself numerous times on how sorry he was and that he never meant to put any children in harm's way. There were five to six calls throughout the day lasting approximately three hours total, wherein Subject Carpenter repeatedly apologized.

IAB NOTE: Sergeant Reynolds photographed Witness

telephone which indicated an incoming call from a telephone used by Subject Carpenter at approximately 4:54 p.m. on August 6, 2012. There were other calls on phone which indicated he had received calls from (Exhibit D). Witness was on the beach with her three children (ages 7,12,14) and a family friend when she saw her Witness Witness walking to their car to get Tylenol. She saw a car approach and stop next to their car. Witness heard loud noise coming from the area of where Witness walked. Her brother- in-law, Witness ran to her side and asked if she heard the gunshots. became frightened because two of her children were sleeping in the tent next to her. Her other daughter and friend were seated on the bank of the beach fishing. She told them to stay put and not move because she did not know which way the shots were being fired. Witness and Witness walked toward Witness who was still standing by their car. saw the SUV pull away as she reached SUV was on Dike road when she heard someone in the vehicle say "Shoot over there." or, "Shoot that direction." said she was really mad because her children were down by the water. She yelled "don't fucking shoot." The SUV drove away. A short heard several more gunshots coming from the direction the SUV had time later driven. Witness did not see who was shooting because it was dark. She was told by Witness that the four males were and his Subject Carpenter. She had met worked with them. because She had never met Subject Carpenter. Witness was on the beach with Witness and his wife Witness when he saw Witness walking up the beach toward his car. saw four as he reached the top of the road. males approach

As Witness reached the four males he heard their voices rise as if they were agitated. He heard three gunshots hit the river next to their camp. He heard two more shots hit a metal shed across the river. The shots were coming directly from the area where Witness saw talking to the males. Was afraid because people swim in the river late at night and he did not know if anyone was in the water. Said he estimated their camp was thirty feet from where the shots were hitting the water.
Witness thought Witness might need assistance and started walking up the road. Saw hiding behind his car as the SUV was backing up the road. The occupants of the SUV saw and stopped. Told told "Hey, you know, what happened?" said, "Just get down, get down. You know, they're really drunk and they have a lot of guns."
Witness was watching the SUV when it started to drive back towards Witness and himself. The SUV stopped and could tell the occupants were arguing amongst themselves. The SUV drove back to the top of Dike Road.
Witness saw the driver and the right front passenger get out. Ray saw the right front passenger, holding a rifle in his hand. As the two males were arguing with each other, he heard one of them say, "Give me the trigger, give me the trigger "." The second male said, "No, let's just leave." described the right front passenger as having a black tank top with very short hair, possibly black. was not positive regarding his description stating it was very dark.
The driver and front passenger got back into the SUV and drove slowly south, away from the beach. Witness heard someone inside the truck yelling "Do it, do it." heard Witness yell "Hey, no, don't do it, there's kids down here." The SUV drove toward the next beach when heard 15 rounds being fired from a large caliber weapon.
On August 8, 2012, Witness received a Facebook message from Witness telling him that had called him and asked him to drop the charges against him and his wanted to know what was going to do. It told he would talk to officers if questioned.
Sergeant Velasquez showed a series of photos of the four males. He could not positively identify the males in the photos.

#### MOJAVE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT STATEMENTS

OFFICER CONTRACTOR OF THE CONT
Officer responded to a shots fired call at a Fort Mohave Indian Reservation beach known as Long Beach. Dispatch gave a description of the vehicle, driver, and front passenger. Dispatch also advised the names of the individuals in the vehicle.
Officer saw the vehicle driving at a high rate of speed from Dike Road to King Street Officer initiated a traffic stop at King Street and Green Valley. Officer arrived and together they extracted the occupants of the vehicle.
Officer contacted the driver and asked him where the weapons were. The driver told Officer the were three in the back of the vehicle and one on the passenger side.
Officer cleared the vehicle of weapons and noticed the .40 caliber handgun was between the front passenger seat and the passenger door. The weapon was fully loaded with one round chambered. It also had a fully loaded magazine resting on top of it. The gun almost fell out as the passenger door was opened.
iAB Note: Subject Carpenter sat in the front passenger seat.
Officer smelled a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the vehicle and saw several open cans of Coors Light beer on the floorboard. He photographed the cans and placed the photos in evidence. As Officer contacted Subject Carpenter, and the could smell a strong odor of alcohol emitting from their breath and person. Each had slurred speech and bloodshot eyes. He did not make those observations on the driver, Subject Carpenter told Officer the did not know what was going on and that he was never near the beach. He also said the did not know anything about weapons in the vehicle. Carpenter continued repeating himself, but was cooperative until he realized he was being arrested.
During the extraction Subject Carpenter identified himself as a Deputy Sheriff and explained to the officers that he was
The first and was con-

Subject Carpenter was placed in the patrol vehicle and transported to the station. While in the car he started yelling he did not know what was going on and that the arrest was bullshit.

As they reached the station his demeanor remained the same yelling they had not done anything wrong. Subject Carpenter said "Let's hurry up and get this over with. I'll do your job for you." Carpenter began mimicking Officer by pretending he was writing the report saying "I whatever the hell your officer's name of this whatever. Mojave Tribe, got this call you know." He was ranting in a drunken slur. Subject Carpenter was escorted to a correction officer for booking. Officer he would be calm one minute then change his demeanor and blurt out "I'm cool, I'm cool, but I don't know about that guy (referring to lease be's treating me like I'm dirt. I don't see why he's treating me like dirt. I think this is fucking bullshit." The corrections officer would tell Carpenter to relax and he would relax. Minutes later he would begin ranting again. Carpenter was subsequently booked and transported to the jail facility. Officer explained there were no casings recovered from the beach because of the amount of sand, foot traffic, wind, and manpower available. He did not perform field sobriety tests (FST) on the passengers, nor the driver. He also did not perform a gunshot residue (GSR) test on the males due to not having any kits at the station and the technician not being available. A field show up was not performed either. OFFICER was the assisting unit on the shots fired call. He called out the right front passenger who was Subject Carpenter. Carpenter complied with orders and was placed in the patrol vehicle. Officer did not notice an alcoholic smell on Carpenter because he was focused on getting the suspects out of the vehicle safely. During the booking process he noticed a change in Subject Carpenter's demeanor. After hearing the charges against him, Carpenter became very disrespectful towards the officers. felt Subject Carpenter was demeaning his agency saying, "You guys

are just Tribal Police Officers you know." "Who are you? You guys are just Tribal Police Officers." Officer limited his contact with Carpenter to the booking.

CORRECTION OFFICER
Witness was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeants Hector Velasquez and Richard Martinez on October 2, 2012. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.
Witness started his shift at 6:00 a.m. He was told during briefing that a Los Angeles County Sheriff had been arrested and was being processed. He walked to the booking area to have a conversation with Subject Carpenter. Carpenter had bloodshot eyes, was unshaven, and smelled of alcohol. Carpenter was cooperative and did not appear agitated.
Witness walked outside with Subject Carpenter, but could not recall if Carpenter was handcuffed at the time. Carpenter did not raise his hands or appear defensive at any time during the conversation. Carpenter did not raise his voice or talk negatively about the Tribal Police Department.
WITNESS STATEMENTS
Witness was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeants Hector Velasquez and Richard Martinez on October 2, 2012. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.
Witness state with the Subject Carpenters' brother and was driving the blue SUV when it was detained by the Mohave Tribal Police Department on August 5, 2012.
Witness said on August 4, 2012 he spent the day with his girlfriend, kids, and friends. They were at a marina called First Beach. Access to the beach is limited to those who have a membership card. was there for the better part of the day and was joined later by his father and brother Subject Carpenter. Witness was also there with other friends.
Witness left the marina and went to nap at his and decided to drive to his and decided to drive to his house to pick up guns. Subject Carpenter if he was going to join them and go to house. Subject Carpenter agreed and left with them. They loaded up the guns and entered Witness girlfriends blue SUV. They were stopped by police within a mile of their house.

Witness said the guns had been at his said house for four days and they had decided to take them back to house. It is said he shot the nine millimeter in his backyard, but that was after coming from the marina. He also said his was inside the house when he shot the gun. Witness said he, his said he, his said never went to Beach #11 after leaving the marina in the afternoon.
After their arrest, Witness said his left to Los Angeles. He talked to him on the telephone to let him know his court date. A few days later, Witness stopped by house and tried to talk, but the conversation did not make sense to the remembered giving subject Carpenter's phone number, but was not sure if he called.
Witness was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeants Hector Velasquez and Richard Martinez on October 2, 2012. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.
Witness is the subject's and lives in Mohave Valley, Arizona. Mr. said his part of the celebrate Mr. birthday. His other part of the celebrate Mr. birthday.
They all drank a few beers in the afternoon and eventually everyone left. Subject Carpenter stayed in the trailer and Mr. retired to his room at approximately 9:00 p.m. Subject Carpenter stayed in the dining room watching television. Mr. said he and Subject Carpenter never left the trailer that day. They sat inside, drank some beer, and talked about fishing before he went to bed at 9:00 p.m.
Mr. said he went to bed and woke up the next morning when he received a telephone call from the boys advising him they had been arrested. Subject Carpenter explained to his that his said and friends had been at the beach in the evening harassing another friend named to be a they left the beach and stopped by Mr. house to pick up Subject Carpenter. They had been arrested as they left his house.

Witness was interviewed by Internal Affairs Sergeants Hector Velasquez and Richard Martinez on October 2, 2012. The interview was digitally recorded and transcribed. The interview transcripts have been included with this case.
Sergeant Velasquez drove to Witness address to contact him. He appeared startled and told Sergeant Velasquez he was in a hurry and had to leave. Sergeant Velasquez told him he had a few questions and would not take up much time. reluctantly agreed. Said he was very drunk on the night of the incident and had blacked out. He remembered being at the marina all day drinking and then getting arrested later in the evening.
Sergeant Velasquez attempted to contact Witness at his residence.  Sergeant Velasquez was told by wife he had left and would not return until late at night. She used her cell phone to call him. Sergeant Velasquez spoke with someone who identified himself as he was at work and would not return home until after midnight. He refused to give his work address or phone number and said he would call Sergeant Velasquez when he was available because he worked a lot of hours.
Sergeant Velasquez left his business card with wife. On October 30, 2013, Sergeant Velasquez telephoned the residence of Witness There was no answer and a message was left. Sergeant Velasquez also mailed a letter to the residence of Witness requesting an interview. At the writing of this report, Sergeant Velasquez had not received confirmation from Witness